

**AB ITHIEL: AN ACCOUNT
OF THE LIFE AND
WRITINGS OF REV.
JOHN WILLIAMS AB ITHIEL**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649022762

Ab Ithel: An Account of the Life and Writings of Rev. John Williams Ab Ithel by James Kenward

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JAMES KENWARD

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OF THE LIFE AND
WRITINGS OF REV.
JOHN WILLIAMS AB ITHEL**

AB ITHEL:
AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
LIFE AND WRITINGS

OF THE
REV. JOHN WILLIAMS AB ITHEL, M.A.,
B.B.D.,

LATE RECTOR OF LLANYMOWDDWY, MERIONETH.

BY
JAMES KENWARD, F.S.A.,
AUTHOR OF "POEMS FOR CAMERIA," ETC.

Cymru bu—Cymru bydd.

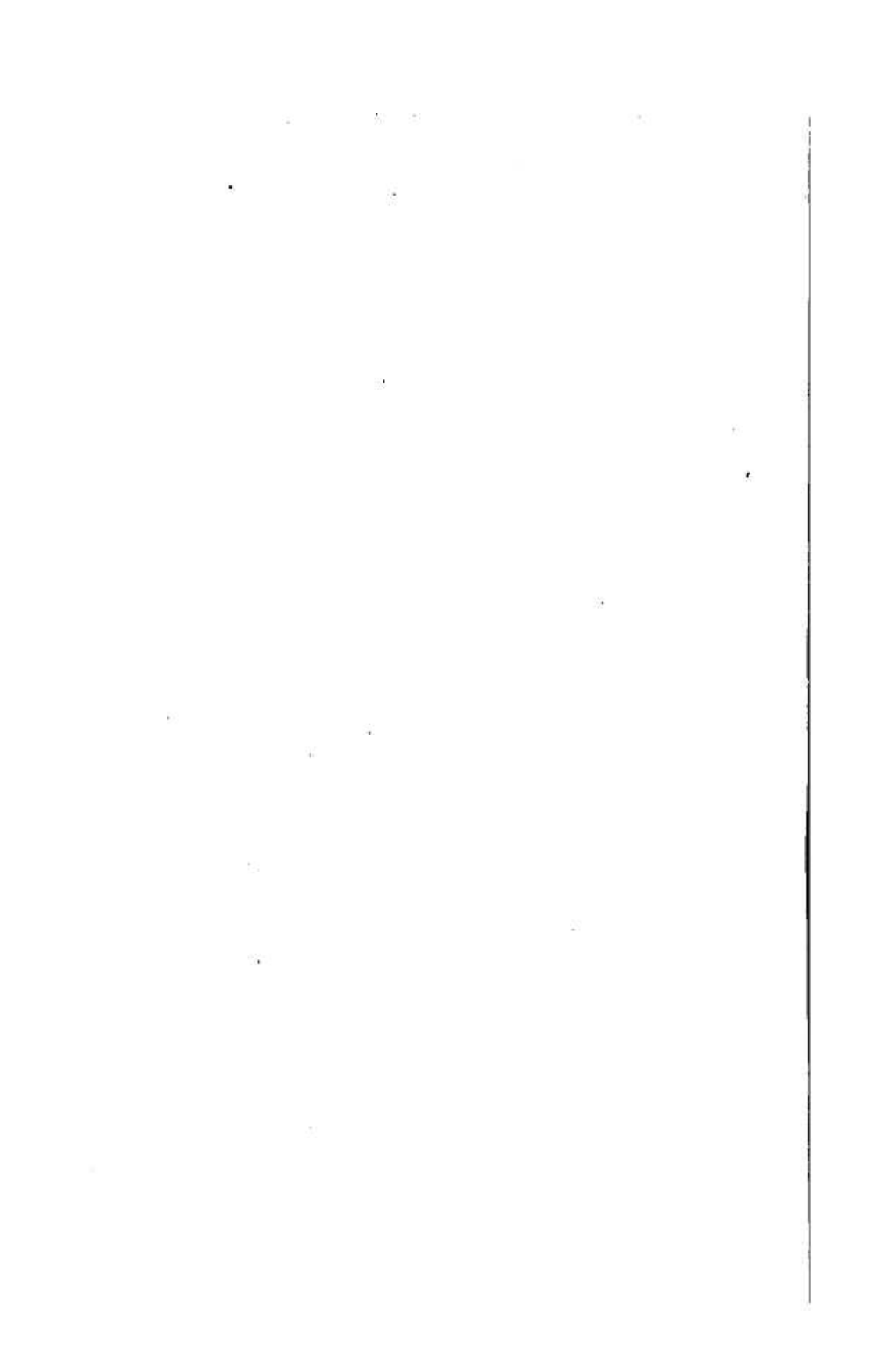
—TALIESIN.

TENBY:
R. MASON, HIGH STREET.
LONDON: W. KENT & Co., 23, PATERNOSTER ROW.
1871.

TO THE WELSH NATION

IS INSCRIBED

THIS MEMORIAL OF A WELSHMAN,
WHOSE HEART, WHOSE INTELLECT, AND WHOSE LIFE,
WERE, WITHOUT PAUSE OR STINT,
DEVOTED TO
THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL HAPPINESS,
THE MAINTENANCE OF THE NATIONAL TONGUE,
AND THE ASSERTION OF THE NATIONAL HONOUR.



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NOTE.

The greater portion of this work (to page 192) was originally published in the form of editorial articles in the *Cambrian Journal*, of 1862-3-4: hence the retention of the first person plural, and the absence of a division into chapters.

AS ITHEL! Never bardic Soul more meet
Hath won the bright consummate Gwynnyd! Voice
And fair embodiment of all of high,
Fervent and pure, which Druid Culture held;
Most Christian priest, clean-handed, self-restrained;
Wise antiquary, steadfast patriot, bold
To speak, not less than generous to feel!
While Fashion piped her cuckoo-chant, he tuned
His life to nobler harmonies; when modes
And systems ruled in turn, he pleaded still
For changeless Law and archetypal Truth.
He should have slept in Enlli with his race
Whose earnest life he lived, whose speech he shared,
Whose learning he inherited. But no!
More fitly rests he where the Sabbath bells
Call his familiar people to their Church,
Who point with love and pride his plain headstone.—
That love, repaying his own love, may yet
Pass with the generation whom he blessed;
That pride shall live while CYMAU keeps her name—
While the broad wave of Celtic Scholarship
Rolls over Europe backward to the East!